

My name is Susan R Cavanna I am a Plainville resident at 52 Parkside Drive. I must apologize for the informal nature of this testimony. It is the only method I could find on the cga.ct.gov website to submit testimony.

March 13, 2016

Good evening Senator Gerrantana, Representative Ritter, and members of the Committee. I appreciate the opportunity to testify.

I support SB 00216, AN ACT EXPANDING THE SALE S TAX EXEMPTION TO INCLUDE FEMININE HYGIENE PRODUCTS AND DISPOSABLE OR REUSABLE DIAPERS ; this bill would exempt infant and toddlers diapers from the sales tax in Connecticut in the same manner as adult undergarments. Adult undergarments or diapers are already tax exempt as medical necessities for BOTH men and women's products. The bill would also exempt feminine hygiene products such as tampons and sanitary pads. I'm happy this Committee is hearing this issue as equal access to basic needs is essential to the health and wellness of infants, toddlers and women. Exposure to the risk of serious infection occurs when attempts are made to stretch supplies of hygiene products by infrequent changes or reuse, or using makeshift alternatives like towels, paper towel, rags etc.

While I am past the age of needing feminine hygiene products I certainly used my share of them for far to many years. I have no children but have changed 12 nieces and nephews and 8 great nieces and nephews. The second generation of young working parents will be helped if diapers become tax exempt. In the past I have also helped parents in need of adult undergarments which do not come cheap and would be a tremendous cost savings without tax. Before you know it, it may be me or **YOU** who needs these products and you will better appreciate the tax exemption proposed.

Thank you for your time, I appreciate your efforts in this endeavor. Susan Cavanna

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